

# DEMING BEACONLIGHT.

VOL. 10.

DEMING, GRANT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1890.

NO. 29.

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## COMMENT.

It rained snakes in South Dakota the other day. The strange phenomenon may be accounted for in the fact that South Dakota is a prohibition state. It is liable to rain anything under such a condition.

Speaker Reed was again caught at his old trick of counting members as present and voting, who were not in the Hall of the House. He needed a quorum, and that was the only way he had, at the moment, of getting it.

The vote in the Senate on the 10th inst. on the passage of the conference bill to demitelize silver for the balance of this Congress, was 39 Republicans for it, and 25 Democrats against it—not a Democrat voting for the measure nor a Republican against it.

If M. S. Otero is nominated by the Republicans for congressional delegate, he will carry up the arid regions of this Territory with Mr. Joseph, or any other man the Democrats can nominate. Citizens.

That is about all Otero will do—map up the arid regions—while Joseph will gather up the votes, the Citizen is a prophet.

There is a good deal of talk now and then, about the Government "doing something for the farmer." The best and only thing the Government can do for the farmer is to quit robbing him through tariff exactions and monetary discrimination. Simply let him alone, and he will do for himself.

The cattle men of the Cherokee strip had a grand round up a few days ago, preparatory to the final abandonment of that country. The strip had been occupied for stock raising under lease from the Indian owners for more than twenty years. Many thousand head of cattle were gathered and driven upon lands procured in Kansas.

France has put a tariff duty of sixty cents a bushel on American corn and \$1.20 on corn meal. The French people are taking lessons in McKinleyism on protection, and the American farmer is getting the benefit of it. France evidently regards a tariff as a tax and wants the proceeds of that tax, and the American corn growers will pay it or burn more corn.

If the land court bill is defeated, the people of New Mexico must remember that the Democrats in congress, urged thereby by the local Democratic bosses and ex-officio holding gang brought about its defeat. [New Mexican.]

Two years ago the Democratic House passed a very good Land Court Bill for New Mexico, long before this stage of the session. That bill was defeated in the Republican Senate. There were only four or five citizens in Washington working for it, but they were Democrats. Some thirty Republicans went to Washington a few months ago, but complicated the Land Court Bill with schemes of personal aggrandizement in immediate anti public school statehood, and got—nothing. "Let the people of New Mexico remember that."

## HELP THE PERKINS BILL.

It is cause for sincere satisfaction that the ablest and most influential Republican paper of the Territory, the Las Vegas Optic, is instant and active in its advocacy of the Perkins Bill for the establishment of a public school system for New Mexico by Congress. The course of the Optic is in marked and agreeable contrast to that of the New Mexican and Citizen, which have only ill-natured criticism of the measure. The Optic says of the bill, that

Whatever its details, it gives us the foundation of our greatest need, a common school system, with a territorial superintendent appointed by the governor, and schools nine months in the year. Defects in detail can be remedied if any exist. It is the principle and the system New Mexico needs. This paper long ago entered the lists in favor of the free public common schools, and proposes to keep the battle up until the victory is won. Already petitions are in circulation in Las Vegas and elsewhere asking congress to take immediate action. The press and people of New Mexico of all parties are united on this question. Time is short. Congress may soon adjourn, this relief is within our reach. Let the press always foremost in good works, arouse the public to the importance of this bill! Circulate petitions everywhere and at once. Send them all signed to Hon. R. W. Perkins, Washington, asking congress to give us a common school law at this session before adjournment. Call public meetings, discuss our needs, pass resolutions and forward them to congress and let us demonstrate to the middle world that this Territory is for the education of the masses, the advancement and progress.

## THE MARK STRIPPED OFF.

Several Republican Newspaper supporters of the Santa Fe Constitution, notably the New Mexican, the leader of that faction of the party, have started in early in opposition to the bill introduced in Congress by Judge Perkins, for the establishment of a public school system in New Mexico. The New Mexican has this to say of it.

Representative Perkins' bill may be all right, and it may not be all right. Give us statehood and we will attend to the educational question. Give us what we are entitled to, and we will look after our schools. We are perfectly willing to take all possible federal aid for our schools, or in fact anything else the federal government will give us, but we want statehood, first, last and all the time, and we will get then what we desire, and that is a hurry.

The New Mexican is the most zealous and unquestioned leader of that wing of the Republican party that favors admission under the September Constitution, and the most persistent and outspoken of all. It may therefore be considered as the representative of that faction, and its utterances as authorized and official.

The immediate statehooders are thereby put in the attitude of opposition, not only to the Perkins' bill, but to any other measure whose purpose is to establish an effective non-sectarian public school system in New Mexico.

They are also put in the attitude of opposition to public schools in any form or by any procurement.

The Constitution they made and are trying to force upon the people without their consent, would render forever impossible, so long as it should remain unaltered, the establishment of such a system—in the first place by prohibiting the necessary taxation, and in the next by disfranchising, in the voting of taxes for school purposes, those who have most need of a system of public education for their children—the entire non-property holding public.

And now that there seems a fair prospect of securing aid from Congress for this most essential purpose—beyond all others the most beneficial and important—opposition to the welfare and progress of New Mexico that was ever placed before Congress, these same people revile it, and presume to rebuke Congress for its presumption in interfering with the affairs of New Mexico, and will defeat it if possible, for its passage will defeat one of the main purposes of statehood at this time and under their Constitution, so far as the great land grant owners are concerned—their continued freedom for taxation for the education of the children of the state.

If there had been any doubt heretofore as to the intent of the September Constitution to discourage the establishment here of the progressive American system of public schools, there can be none now, in the light of this later development—that the apparently broad and liberal declarations of the preamble and ordinances of the Constitution on the public school question were but for the purpose of deception to catch the votes of the free school people and to cover up the intent and negative effect of subsequent clauses relating to suffrage and taxation.

They now stand before the world stripped of that disguise. It is a development of danger to public education which makes it doubly important that the people of New Mexico rouse themselves to every effort that may tend to secure an additional vote in Congress for the Perkins' Bill.

The makers of that Constitution have masqueraded in the guise of friends of education as long as it is possible. The mask is now stripped from their faces, and there is no occasion for any one being longer deceived.

The history of the defeat of the Kistler school bill two years ago by those identical constitution makers, is further illustrated in the light of this opposition to Congressional intervention, for the opposition to the Perkins bill is not based in any sense upon the nature or provisions of the bill, but upon the ground of Con-

gressional intervention for the establishment of schools and the effect it will have upon their pet statehood scheme. And they want that first because it would put such Congressional intervention forever out of the power of Congress. They would then have things their own way, and it would be the end of all hope for public schools in New Mexico for a generation to come.

That is the reason, and the principal reason, why they insist on admission under the pending Constitution, and are unwilling to accept it under any other.

## LET THEM DO IT IF THEY DARE.

None but property owners can vote on any proposition to levy taxes for the support of public schools, under the Constitution that it is now proposed to force upon the people of New Mexico by act of Congress and without the consent of the people. Not even the non property holding payer of the poll tax is allowed to vote how his tax is to be used in support of schools. This is taxation without representation.

Fortunately all these people can vote on the Constitution if submitted, and it is the knowledge that this bungling and infamous work of the conspirators will be overwhelmingly voted down if the opportunity is given, that inspires the proposition to recall the order for the election, and the determination to force the scheme through Congress without a prior election by the people on it. Let them recall the order for that election if they dare.

## GEN. FREMONT DEAD.

Gen. John C. Fremont, the first candidate of the republican party for president, died at the home of his adopted daughter, the wife of Col. R. M. Porter, at 40 West Twenty-fifth street, N. Y. Sunday afternoon. Death was due to complications of the bowels. His sickness was of comparatively brief duration, and dated its first stages from the excessive heat of last week, when the thermometer went up to 100. That day the old general went down to Seabright, N. J., where his adopted daughter was sleeping, and the heat effected him very seriously. He returned home feeling ill. On the following day, Wednesday, he experienced some pain, and on Thursday was unable to get out of bed. Matters assumed so much worse a turn on Friday that he sent for his physician. The doctor advised the sick man to take a salt and get a little fresh air. While on the way he got a bad chill. Friday night he sent for Dr. Morton again. On the following morning the disease had developed enough to show its true character, peritonitis, but even that a message to that effect was sent to Seabright. Final dissolution was sudden. The general was 77 years and 6 months old to a day at the time of his death.

In Las Vegas petitions are being circulated asking congress to pass the Perkins school bill. Every town in New Mexico has about a fellow suit at once and send in their petition. Let Socorro not be behind.—[Advertiser.]

It is alleged that the republican party of New Mexico is on the verge of dissolution on account of its factionalism, or the leaders who are engaged in a vendetta to the death, and also because of the disgust of the state at the workings of prohibition.

If the Republicans of Socorro county put forth any especial effort for the defeat of this bill it will be from pure desire to obstruct the cause of education, under no obligation to the administration, or to the party leaders in the Territory. This is our declaration of independence.—[San Marcial Reporter.]

Petitions are now being circulated all over the city urging upon congress the immediate passage of the Perkins school bill. Several hundred signatures have been obtained in the various petitions, and the grand total, including those all over the Territory, will reach up into the thousands. It is the duty of every citizen to sign this petition at once, and thus put himself on record as in favor of one of the grandest measures ever projected for the advancement of the Territory.—[Las Vegas Optic.]

The next legislature should take hold of the New Mexican Penitentiary and make a cleaning up of the present and past methods. The institution evidently needs the harpoon of reform thrown into it with a vengeance. For the future of the republican party nepotism and hereditary office-holding must be "cut off at the pocket" and buried beneath the wildest wall of family pedigrees. Mr. Ortiz y Salazar, Territorial Treasurer, and Penitentiary Commissioner, have held office for thirty-four years, and is still unable to speak the English language. Mr. Trinidad Alarid, Territorial Auditor and Penitentiary Commissioner, has worried himself for twenty-four years by holding office. Not satisfied with this they are educating all their relatives into the ease and grace of drawing a salary from the territorial treasury. It is said that they have become very rich attached to the state-house and do not show the least sign of fatigue in performing their slight duties. Both are hale and hearty, and come of families of historic longevity. Both these office-holders are so healthy and vigorous that on one of the present generation applies to be treasurer or auditor of New Mexico. The office will probably change hands by default about 1890 unless the next legislature acts upon the matter of a penitentiary reform and takes away the Salazar and Alarid families.—[Kingston Bluff.]

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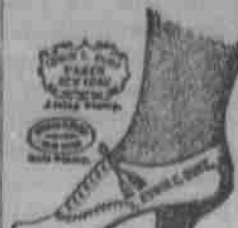
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BISHOP POTTER ON PENSIONS.

In his address to the Phi Beta Kappa of Harvard, this eminent Bishop, proceeding upon the assumption that the government can afford to pay the money necessary to carry out even the wildest pension schemes, he considers the most serious effect of the present system upon the National character by reason of its superfluous tendencies. Among other things he said:

"Never was there a phariseism of philanthropy in which personal aggrandizement more impudently masqueraded in the garment of a grateful patriotism than schemes so grotesque that they should long ago have been laughed out of our political experience. Indeed, far apart in time as are Rome and America, we must needs own that the phariseism of history are at once tragic and significant. It was a huge military organization, remember, which once put the Roman empire up at auction and proposed to knock it down to the highest bidder. Today it is in the air that the party which bids highest to a precisely similar constituency that is to be rewarded with the symbols of National primacy and authority. And out of that it has come to pass that not alone some scoured and honorable veteran, brave and unflinching survivor of a heroic charge, but every skulking camp follower and deserter, every fraudulent and tainted claimant who has the effrontery to demand his bribe, can have it, if only his signature shall thus become a commodity within the control of partisan dictation, and he himself a lackey to do his political master's bidding."

Certainly, if anything could rouse the public conscience on this most important of public questions, such strong and bitter words as these should do their part.—[New York Commercial Advertiser, June 28th.]

## PENSION MARVELLS.

On January last there were over 508,000 names on the pension roll, and the clerks in the Pension Bureau were struggling with over 479,000 undischarged claims. The claims that will be entered under the disability pension bill would require an additional force of 500 clerks to insure their consideration at an equal rate with the hitherto undischarged claims. Some of the disabled veterans will have to wait a long time, and in the meantime the cry of national bankruptcy may be heard. If all the claims should be adjusted to-day, and the money secured to the pensioners, the Treasury would be emptied as though by magic, and an enormous deficit would loom up where once the pleasing appearance of a large and juicy surplus delighted the public eye.

The Constitutional Convention when it meets in August could strengthen the constitution by inserting a provision limiting office-holding in the state of New Mexico and the counties thereof to two terms, and also providing that no man should hold more than one office at the same time. Under the present law a man can, could he be elected, hold every office in Sierra county and draw pay from all of them.—[Black Range.]

According to the annual report of the commissioner of labor, Carroll D. Wright, the number of employees on all the railroads of the country amounts to 700,000. There are 1,218 different railroad corporations, and the total mileage of these railroads is 155,400 miles.

There is no state in the Union, except little Delaware, whose expenses per annum are less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; and yet, they talk of New Mexico as a state when its court vouchers are not worth a cent on the dollar, and the income from taxes would scarcely be enough to pay for one session of the legislature.—[Kingston Bluff.]

It now looks as if peace in Europe was at a come to an end. Russia is undoubtedly preparing to attack Turkey and when the fun once begins no man can tell how many of the European powers will take part in the contest. The war preparations directed by the St. Petersburg government, cut at the Black Sea ports are going forward incessantly. The lack of the Black Sea fleet is ordered to rendezvous at Sebastopol, where large stores have been collected, and there are immense facilities for storing all sorts of munitions of war.

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